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EXTRACTS
FROM THE MINUTES
OF
THE UNITED SYNOD
OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF
UPPER CANADA,
AT
THEIR MEETING HELD IN CAVAN,
MONDAY, JUNE 24, 1839.



WILLIAM BUELL, PRINTER, BROCKVILLE, U. C.

1839.

Handwritten text in a cursive script, likely a letter or document. The text is written in a dark ink on aged, slightly discolored paper. The handwriting is fluid and somewhat slanted. There are several lines of text, with some words appearing to be in a different script or language, possibly indicating a mix of languages or a specific dialect. The text is mostly illegible due to the cursive style and fading. There are some small stains and a small tear on the right side of the page.

EXTRACTS FROM THE MINUTES &c.



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, CAVAN, }
Monday, June 24th, 1839. }

THE United Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Upper Canada met according to appointment, and was opened by a Sermon, delivered by the Rev. Robert Boyd, A. M. from Matt. 16, 18, "And I say also unto thee, that thou art Peter, and upon this rock will I build my Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

After Public Worship the Synod was constituted by the Moderator.

The Roll was called and marked. The following Members were present.

Ministers.

WILLIAM SMART,
ROBERT BOYD,
WILLIAM KING,
ROBERT LYLE,
GEORGE MCCLATCHEY,
THOMAS JOHNSON,
JAMES DOUGLASS,
JAMES CAIRNS,
SAMUEL PORTER.

Elders.

ROBERT SEATON.

The Rev. James Douglass was chosen Moderator for the present year.

The Minutes of the last meeting of Synod were read and confirmed.

The Clerk was instructed to write to absent Members, requiring their attendance at the next meeting of Synod, and assign reasons for their absence.

Messrs. Smart and Boyd were appointed a Committee, to prepare Petitions and other documents to the Governor, and the Imperial Parliament, on the subject of the Clergy Reserves.

Messrs. King, Lyle, and Douglass, were appointed a Committee, to prepare letters to such members of the Imperial Parliament, to whom it may be necessary to commit the Petitions to the Legislature.

Concluded by prayer, and adjourned to 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

TUESDAY MORNING, 9 o'clock.

In the absence of the Moderator, Dr. Cairns was called to the chair, and having opened the Synod by prayer; Messrs. King, Lyle and Porter gave their reasons for their being late this morning, which were satisfactory.

Mr. Lyle gave reasons for his absence at the last meeting of the Synod, which were satisfactory.

It was on motion,

Resolved, 1st—That the Clerk be instructed, not only to write to the absent Members; but this Synod feels deep regret, that so many of their Brethren are generally in the habit of absenting themselves from the meetings of the Synod, and as we fear, from mere excuses which ought not to be made; the Synod therefore feel it a duty highly incumbent upon them, to exercise every lawful means, which the constitution of the Church, puts in their power, to bring their Brethren to a sense of their duty to God, the Church, and their Brethren in the Ministry.

Resolved, 2d—That in addition to our exhortations to a more regular attendance of the Bretheren, we do hereby pledge ourselves to God, to the Church, and to one another, that such Members as absent themselves from the meetings of the Synod, without a sufficient reason, shall be, and are hereby made liable to pay the following sums into the Missionary Fund: that is to say, that those Members who are in the receipt of the Government allowance, and absent themselves from the meetings of Synod, shall pay the sum of Five Pounds Halifax Currency; and that those who are not in the receipt of the Government allowance, and absent themselves from the meetings of Synod, will in like manner pay the sum of One Pound Five Shillings Halifax Currency; and Members neglecting or refusing to pay the above sums, shall be dealt with accordingly.

The Presbyteries reported their proceedings in relation to the Confession of Faith; when they were enjoined to forward without delay, their Reports as to the number of copies they will be responsible for, to the Committee on that subject.

The Committee appointed to carry into effect the circulation of Religious Tracts, the formation of Sunday Schools, and Bible Classes, reported that they had entered into a correspondence with the respective Societies in Britain, but had received no official communication from them. The Committee were instructed to pursue the object of the Resolution of the Synod on these subjects.

The different Ministers were called on to state their efforts to promote Tract Societies and Sunday Schools in their respective bounds; when it was found that there was a growing desire, not only in their own minds,

but also, in the minds of the people generally, to encourage these institutions. It is also peculiarly gratifying to learn, that these benevolent and enlightening institutions are on the increase. The Synod enjoined on the Members to continue their labours, and prosecute their inquiries, in order that more statistical information may be collected.

The Committee on the WIDOW'S FUND reported, and were instructed to proceed.

The Ministers present gave an account of their Missionary Labours, and the supplies they afforded to destitute places.

Dr. Cairns reported, that he had preached as a Missionary 16 Sabbaths in destitute places.

Mr. Porter, that he had laboured in various places, which the Synod considered as Missionary ground.

Mr. Douglass also stated the opportunities he embraced to extend the boundaries of Zion, by preaching the Gospel.

The Synod was particularly gratified with their exertions, and ordered that the sum of Three Pounds be paid to these Brethren from the Missionary Fund; and also, that the sum of Two Pounds be allowed Mr. Dickey for similar services; and likewise to Mr. Lewis, Two Pounds, Ten Shillings.

Adjourned to meet for Public Worship; after which the Synod to meet.

TUESDAY, 4 o'clock, P. M.

After Public Worship, and a Sermon by the Rev. R. Lyle, A. M. from Romans, 3d, 28, "Therefore we conclude, that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law." The Synod was called to order by the Moderator.

The Committee on Public Documents reported, and presented Petitions for the consideration of the Synod, TO THE QUEEN, THE HOUSE OF LORDS, and to THE HOUSE OF COMMONS, on the subject of the Clergy Reserves, which were received and approved.

The Rev. Mr. Porter closed with prayer, and adjourned until tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, 9 o'clock.

Opened by prayer by Rev. Mr. Porter. On motion,

Resolved,—That the Clerk be enjoined to have the Minutes of Synod printed in the course of One Month from the close of the Synod, and that the Treasurer furnish him with the means before the adjournment.

Messrs. Boyd and Lyle were appointed a committee to examine the Treasurer's Accounts.

Messrs. Rogers and Johnson were called on for their reasons for being absent at the opening of the Synod, and having given them, they were sustained.

On motion,

Resolved,—That the Clerk be instructed to write to the Rev. Mr. Bryning to pay to the Treasurer, on or before the 1st August next, the sum of £5, for Missionary purposes, and the contingent expenses of the Synod, together with the sum of £5 2s. 6d. advanced by Messrs. King and M'Clatchey at the last meeting of Synod on his behalf, as his proportion of the expenses of a Lawsuit, entered into by the authority of the Synod, and if not complied with, the Presbytery of Toronto to proceed against him.

The Clerk also to write to Dr. Gemmil to pay to the Treasurer £5, as his subscription to the Missionary and Contingent Expenses of the Synod, before the 1st of August.

A Recess for one Hour and a half.

After the Recess the Synod proceeded to the consideration of the Report of the Synodical Committee, which being received and approved is as follows.

REPORT OF THE SYNODICAL COMMITTEE.

The Committee have to report, that, when Lord Durham was on his way to the upper part of the Province, during the course of last summer, we prepared an Address to present to his Lordship, at Prescott, but as he was not apprised of it until his arrival, and on account of the very short delay that he made at that place, the committee had not an opportunity of presenting it to him, but handed it to Mr. Euller his Secretary.

The Committee also forwarded a Petition to the Provincial Parliament during its late Session, on the subject of the Clergy Reserves; praying that Honorable House, that, if they passed a bill for the sale of the Clergy Reserves, and applying the proceeds thereof to religious purposes, to grant to the United Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Upper Canada an equal share with any other denomination of professing Christians in the Province; but should they deem it expedient, to apply the whole, or any part of them to Education, and the Public Improvement of the country, it would meet with our entire concurrence. The above Petition was addressed to Col. Chisholm, with a request, to present it to the House. With this he had the goodness to comply.

During the sitting of the House, we received a letter from Toronto, signed by the Honorable William Morris and ten other Members of the Legislature addressed to the Commission of the Synod of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland; together with a Report of a

meeting held in Toronto, with a view to promote the union that has been so long under consideration and first proposed by the Synod of Canada, 1837.

The following are these Documents.

At Toronto, and within the Committee Room of the Legislative Council, the 9th day of April, 1839, which day there met the following members of the Commission of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connexion with the Church of Scotland, viz:

The Rev. WILLIAM RINTOUL,	} Ministers.
" " W. T. LEACH,	
EDWARD W. THOMSON, Esq. M. P.	} Elders.
JAMES MORRIS, Esquire, M. P.	
The Hon'ble WILLIAM MORRIS, M. L. C.	
" " JOHN McDONALD, M. L. C.	

The Rev. William King, member of the United Synod of Upper Canada, and William Chisholm, Esq. M. P., were admitted to take part in the business of the Meeting.

The Rev. William Rintoul was called to the Chair, and Mr. Leach, on the call of the Chairman, opened the business with Prayer.

The Honorable William Morris stated, that he and other Members of the Legislature, had been desirous of calling a Special Meeting of the Commission of the Synod, with a view to their taking those steps that seem to be called for in the present crisis of the Clergy Reserve question, for bringing about the admission into the Church of the Ministers and Congregations belonging to the United Synod of Upper Canada, and that finding it impossible to obtain such meeting so soon as the exigency of the case required, he would read to this meeting a Letter which had been prepared by himself, and others of the Commission.

The following Letter was accordingly produced and read :

(See letter appended.)

After deliberation in the matter thus brought before the meeting ; the following Resolutions were severally proposed and agreed to.

1st.—That all the reasons which have been again and again formally admitted by the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, as recommending the admission into the Church of the Minister and Congregations of the United Synod of Upper Canada, continue to exist ; and have been strengthened, rather than weakened since the question of a union was last entertained by the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada.

2d.—That this Meeting do strongly recommend that the admission of the said Ministers and Congregations into the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland, should take place with the least possible loss of time, for this amongst other reasons, that arrangement of the details of a measure for the partition of the Clergy Reserves now before a Select Committee of the House of Assembly will be facilitated by such admission ; the Members of that

House, in the present meeting having declared that they consent to keep back the special mention of the Ministers of the United Synod in the scheme of the said measures, only in anticipation that all those Ministers will be speedily incorporated with the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland.

3d.—That this Meeting strongly recommends that the Commission of the Synod at their meeting on the First of May next, shall respectfully invite the United Synod of Upper Canada to meet with the Synod of the Presbyterian Church at their first ordinary meeting in Kingston, that both Synods may there confer on the terms of union that have been already proposed by the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, with a view to such modification of them as may admit the reception into the said Synod of all the members now on the Roll of the United Synod, and the accomplishment of the union during the session of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church, without waiting for the action of the Presbyteries.

4th.—That a copy of this Minute be sent to the Rev. Alexander Gale, Convener of the Commission, and to the Rev. William King.

The Minutes having been read, Mr. King, on the call of the Chairman, closed the Meeting with prayer.

WILLIAM RINTOUL, *Chairman.*

A true Copy. }
W. R. }

TORONTO, 9th April, 1839.

Dear Sirs,—

In bringing to a satisfactory conclusion, the painfully protracted disputes respecting the appropriation of the Clergy Reserves, we feel that one of the prominent obstacles which embarrass the settlement of the Legislature, is the numerous divisions into which the Protestant Church is separated, and the consequent diversity of feeling and conflicting views which are advanced by the contending parties. One of these causes of difficulty, it appears to us, should no longer be suffered to exist;—we allude to the division in the Presbyterian Church in this Province, and the unimportant barrier which has kept at an unfriendly distance, the Ministers in connexion with the Church of Scotland and those of the United Synod of Upper Canada.—This barrier is a most serious hindrance in the way of the proceeding at present under consideration in Parliament, and in order to its final removal, at the next Synod, we call upon you, as the superintendents of the spiritual interests of the Scots Church in this Colony, to express an opinion in favor of a prompt Union of the two Churches, which we shall regard as binding on the Church of Scotland in this country, and shape our Legislative measures accordingly. We trust that an union, so important to the best interests of Religion, may no longer meet with objections and difficulties, the grounds of which, are not to be compared with the far higher object of embracing within one Christian Fold—of meeting in unity and brotherly love with—a people, whose Doctrine, Faith, and Worship, are similar to our own—Men who desire to return to the bosom of the

parent Church, and to whom we have given an invitation, which we request will again be repeated, with an earnest intention to bring to a speedy close, a work so much to be desired by all parties.

Trusting that the great Head of the Church may guide and direct your minds to the happy termination of an unnecessary division in the Christian Church, and that you may conjointly agree upon the terms of union before this day, and thereby enable us the better to discharge the duties which now devolve upon us in Parliament, in settling the manner in which the Clergy Reserves shall be divided among the different denominations in this Province.

We remain, Dear Sirs,
Your Sincere Friends,

W. MORRIS,
JOHN McDONALD,
W. CHISHOLM,
T. McKAY,
ALEX. McLEAN,
COLLIN C. FERRIE,
MALCOLM CAMERON,
JAS. MATHEWSON,
EDW'D MALLOCH,
JAMES CROOKS,
ROB. G. DUNLOP.

To the Commission of Synod of the Church of Scotland in Canada.

The Committee acting under the impression that such measures were leaving the United Synod entirely at the discretion of the Synod of Canada ; for no Resolutions that might be passed by their Commission could be binding on them ; and if the Bill passed in the proposed form, and no union take place, then no appropriation was, nor could be made for the United Synod. We therefore, forwarded without delay, a Petition to his Excellency Sir GEO. ARTHUR, the Governor, in Council, praying to withhold the Royal assent from any bill that might pass the Houses of Parliament, appropriating the Clergy Reserves for Religious purposes, not including the United Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Upper Canada,

All which is submitted to the consideration of the Synod.

Signed in the name and behalf of the Synodical Committee.

WILLIAM SMART, *Convener.*
ROBERT BOYD, *Clerk.*

Mr. King presented Documents from the Commission of the Synod of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland in relation to the Union.

The following, together with a Letter from the Rev. Wm. Rentoul, were read and ordered to be inserted on the Minutes.

At Toronto, the First day of May, one thousand eight hundred and thirty nine. The Commission of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in Connexion with the Church of Scotland, met pursuant to adjournment and was constituted with prayer.

Inter alia,

The following Documents were given in by the Convener and read, namely :—A Letter from certain Members of the Legislature addressed to the Convener of the Commission, urging the propriety of incorporating the Ministers and Congregations of the United Synod of Upper Canada with this Church ; and the Minute of a Meeting of certain Ministers, Elders and Members of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church and of the United Synod, containing Resolutions to the same effect as the above mentioned ; recommending that the Commission, at their present meeting, issue a respectful invitation to the United Synod to meet with the Synod of the Presbyterian Church, at their first ordinary meeting at Kingston, that both Synods may then and there consider the terms of union already proposed by the Synod of the Presbyterian Church, with a view to such modification of them as may admit of the reception with the said Synod of all the Ministers now on the Roll of the United Synod : said Minute being signed by the Rev. William Rintoul, as Chairman of said Meeting.

The Commission having maturely considered the aforesaid Documents and having reference to the often repeated sentiments of the Synod in regard to the desirableness of the incorporation referred to in them, unanimously *Resolved*, to transmit the said Documents to the Synod, with a respectful and earnest recommendation that immediate steps be taken in regard to the same.

The Commission further instructed the Clerk to transmit a copy of the foregoing Resolution to Mr. Rintoul, as Chairman of the Meeting above referred to, in order that he may acquaint the parties concerned of the tenour of the same ; and to inform him that the Commission having received no instructions from the Synod on the subject of said union regard it as *ultra vires* for them to take up the matter in their collective capacity, so as to propose a specific course to be pursued in regard to it, by either of the bodies concerned ; although they are disposed, as individuals, cordially to support the measure recommended in the aforesaid Documents : but that they regard their want of delegated powers in this matter as of little moment, when they take into consideration the simultaneous movement which has been made by influential members of both bodies in regard to it ; which they think cannot fail to lead the United Synod to such arrangements as they may see necessary for bringing the subject to a favourable issue, in so far as they are concerned ; while the same causes will doubtless secure for the subject the immediate favourable consideration of the Synod of the

Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland.

Extracted from the Records of the Commission by

ROBERT M'GILL, Ck.

For the Rev. WILLIAM RINTOUL.

Extract of a Letter from the Rev. Wm. Rintoul to the Rev. Wm. King.

"It is thought that a conference or negotiation should be conducted by committees of the several Synods; and if your synod will at their approaching meeting, appoint a Committee with full powers to treat of a Union and bring it to a consummation so far as they can, then *I would engage for myself and the Bretheren who act with me in this matter, to move our Synod to appoint a similar Committee, to confer and treat with any Committee appointed by your Synod on the terms on which an incorporation of your Ministers and Congregations with our Church should take place.*"

Adjourned at 4 o'clock for public worship.

After public worship and sermon by the Rev. Samuel Porter, from Luke, 19th, 41, 42, the synod came to order.

The synod having received the above Documents, the important subject of a union with the synod of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland, was again brought under their consideration; and after a careful and prayerful review of its rise, in the proposal of the Committee, which met in Montreal, (in 1827,) its progress and history; the synod unanimously,

Resolved, 1st,—That this synod continues to view with deep interest, the subject of a union of Presbyterians in Canada, professing the same Faith, and adhering to the same standards of Government, Discipline and Worship; and their attention being again invited to the subject by the above Documents from the Commission of the synod of Canada, and in order to effect a union, founded on just and scriptural grounds, which would secure unanimity, undivided esteem and permanent utility, this synod will cheerfully co-operate with the synod of Canada to bring the contemplated union to a speedy and final consummation.

2,—That in order to carry the views of this synod into effect, a Committee be appointed, to consist of the following members, namely; Messrs. Smart, Boyd, King, M'Clatchy and Douglass, with their Elders, to meet a Committee of the synod of Canada to assemble at Kingston, on the last Wednesday in August, at the hour of 12 o'clock, or at such other time and place that may be more convenient, and appointed by the synod of Canada.

After some discussion, the following motion was proposed and agreed to.

That the Committee appointed to meet the committee of the synod of Canada on the subject of a union, be invested with unlimited authority and with power to remove all difficulties.

It was also agreed that the expenses incurred by the said committee be defrayed by this synod.

Adjourned to meet to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, 9 o'clock June 27th 1839.

The members met, and some of the brethren having engaged in occasional exercises in reading the word of God and prayer, the synod proceeded to business. The report of the Brockville Presbytery was received and adopted.

REPORT OF THE BROCKVILLE PRESBYTERY.

It was the language of an eminent servant of God in his ancient church, "when thy judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness." When the cloud charged with the judgments of Jehovah, hovered over our beloved land, and when that cloud burst with such terror and alarm, we earnestly hoped, as a people, we would learn lessons of righteousness, which the afflictions of the Almighty are so calculated to impress on the human conscience, by awakening in the soul contrition for sin, a sincere departure from iniquity, and an earnest desire to secure in life, in death and in eternity the favour and love of God. So far as we have observed, we deeply regret that the awful visitations of God have not produced repentance toward him and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

Since the last meeting of the synod, the bounds of the Presbytery have been the theatre of the most afflictive calamities. The sound of the trumpet, the clash of arms, and garments rolled in blood. Some of the members of our congregations have fell on the field of battle, and many others of them exposed to the weapons of death while defending the laws and constitution of their country. These events and circumstances have been far from producing those solemn impressions on the public mind, which are in accordance with the nearness of death, and the retributions of eternity.

The military movements consequent on the invasion of this part of the Province, have been any thing but favorable to the spirit, and practice of religion. We indeed rejoice that our country, and its civil institutions have been preserved and the foe expelled from our soil; but, it is most deeply to be deplored that intemperance, profanity and the desecration of the sabbath have greatly prevailed, and a spirit of hatred and revenge awakened. This state of things, of course, has been exceedingly injurious to the prosperity of Zion in the cultivation of the purity, gentleness and meekness of the christian character; and has through the deceitfulness of sin, rendered many of the professing people of God less prayerful and watchful.

The ministers of the Presbytery notwithstanding these discouragements have not been less vigilant. They have borne their testimony and

raised their voices against the reigning vices of the times. Meetings for public instruction have been held, and great numbers of religious tracts have been circulated. These, as seed, have been cast upon the waters in the ardent hope, that the divine spirit of all grace will bless them as means to awaken sinners, convert their souls, and thereby, bring them to the enjoyment of spiritual life and peace in this world, and to endless purity and happiness in the world to come.

Our lot has been cast in perilous times, and yet the Presbytery think that these are only beginnings of sorrow. We evidently have approached an important era of the world. God seems as though he was coming out of his place to punish the inhabitants of the world for their iniquity, and by his mighty power to overthrow the abominations of the earth, and introduce a new order of things in the political, moral and religious state of the world. Glorious things are indeed spoken of Zion. In this we rejoice, for her interests are exceedingly precious to us. She is the spouse of Christ, the purchase of his blood, his peculiar treasure in whom his soul delighteth, but before her prosperity is universal, and before she becomes the glory and beauty of all lands, we believe there will be a time of suffering unparalleled in the history of man. "The earth shall disclose her blood, and no more cover her slain." We live on the eve of the accomplishment of this, and other scripture threatnings and predictions against the wicked. The cords of society in almost every country are loosened, anarchy begins to prevail in every form of government and a lawless spirit has broken loose among all classes of men, and God in his providential rule is shaking the powers that be—whatever are our forebodings—whatever may be the scenes of horror, slaughter and blood that may open to a guilty world, we cannot but rejoice that God our Saviour reigns, and that he has provided a serene retreat in the pavilion of his grace for his church. "Come my people enter thou into thy chambers and shut thy doors about thee, hide thyself as it were for a little moment until the indignation be overpast." Whatever may be the result of the present movements of the providence of God to the present state and order of things, his truth shall ultimately prevail and triumph, his kingdom of universal glory, love and peace will come and as the mediatorial King he must reign and all enemies be put under his feet.—We therefore labor in the cheerful hope that our toil shall not be in vain, and that we shall in some measure be made the instruments of advancing the achievements of the heavenly king, even of him who loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, and will make us kings and priests unto God, and we shall reign with him. In the mean time we are willing, while we remain on the earth, to spend and be spent in his service and to go through evil and good report for his namesake.

The Presbytery has met five times since the last meeting of synod.

Rev. Mr. Lyle has been disconnected from the charge of the congregation of Osnabruck, and said congregation is now vacant.

Since the last meeting of synod a new congregation has been erected in the Township of Finch, and is now under the charge of the Rev. Mr. Lyle.

The Rev. Joseph Anderson of South Gower is moderator, and Rev. Robert Boyd, clerk for the present year.

Signed.

J. ANDERSON, *Moderator.*

R. BOYD, *Clerk.*

The report of the Toronto Presbytery was received and adopted.

REPORT OF THE TORONTO PRESBYTERY.

In reporting to synod on the state of our churches, while we lament that more has not been done for the cause of Christ among us, we have still reason to rejoice that the King and Head of the church has not left us without evident marks of his presence. There has been no extraordinary outpouring of his spirit upon the churches; but there has been a steady increase in some of them. Accessions have been made of such as we hope will be saved in the day of the Lord. The means of grace have been well attended, and a lively interest in them manifested by many. If the Presbytery, however, have much cause to bless and praise God for the manifestations of his saving power, and the progress of divine truth, they have great reason to lament the wide spread desolations around them. Many in their bounds, are evidently strangers to the regenerating power of Divine grace, who pursue the world as their chief good. It is evident, that not the power only, but even the form of godliness is in many places under a lamentable decay, and has been so for some time past. The neglect of family worship, the abuse of the Christian Sabbath, the disregard of the ordinances of religion, the neglect of them by some and the ineffectual attendance by others, these are some instances of departure from God, which may be termed the distinguishing characteristics of the times in which we live and which we have reason to deplore.

Another evil much to be lamented, is the want of parental instruction, and the neglect of parents in bringing children under obedience, or submission to family government. The system of instruction and discipline suitable to the nature and circumstances of children, is such as has a tendency, not only to prepare them for usefulness in the present life, but also for happiness in the future. The youth who is taught his duty to God, will listen to the instructions of his earthly parents with deference and submission. He will also learn submission to every other person, whom age, authority, or a greater degree of experience, has rendered him his superior? but if children are not taught, to honor and obey those on whom they are immediately dependent, is it to be expected that they will revere their civil rulers, or the laws of their country, or that they will be in subjection to the powers that are ordained of God; to this source may in some measure be traced the evils of rebellion and that disorder which we have lately witnessed in this country.

We would, therefore, most earnestly call upon parents and every one in his station to contribute his aid for the suppression of vice, and for promoting the interests of pure and undefiled religion among the young and rising generation. Let us join hand in hand in this necessary work and labor of love. Hereby, we shall become public blessings while we live, and shall at last, through the mercy of God in Christ, have an entrance ministered unto us into that better world, where, with one heart and one voice, we shall celebrate the praises of Zion's King.

For ourselves, we have reason, amid all our unworthiness and infirmity, to be deeply thankful. Our Divine Head has not deserted us, nor left himself without his witness among us, we have hitherto been enabled to act upon the great principle of the churches, unity; and are now enjoying the mercy of profound peace in our religious bodies.

The Presbytery have met five times since the last meeting of synod. Dr. Cairns having given in his dismission of the church in Albion, and reasons, they were sustained.

THOMAS JOHNSON, *P. Chr.*

REPORT OF THE HALLOWELL PRESBYTERY.

The Presbytery have to report that the past year has been fraught with events of the most momentous nature. The judgments of the Lord have been abroad in the earth. Wars, and rumours of wars have been witnessed, and heard in the land; and the Presbytery feel to deplore that there is such just cause in the awful impiety and wickedness of the inhabitants, for Jehovah to come out of his churches to punish the earth. But the Presbytery have cause to rejoice, that, although their sympathies have been excited, in hearing of the sufferings, and dangers to which others have been exposed, there has been no bloodshed within their bounds. They have also to regret, that the agitated state of the country has so powerfully taken possession of the public mind, and engrossed the subject of conversation, that it has proved detrimental to the growth of religion, and the extension of the Saviour's kingdom; and when they contemplate the kindness of a gracious providence, which has kept them free from such disasters, they feel humble at the consideration of their great unworthiness of the special favor. They have also to report that they have met with Mr. Cory, of Pleasant Bay, according to appointment of synod, to obtain more correct information respecting the money collected by him, when agent to the synod; and although a report was rendered by Mr. Cory, different from any other that was furnished upon the same subject, the conclusion was the same, and resulted in making known the fact, that there was no money to be delivered up to the synod. The Presbytery is of opinion that further investigation upon the subject would be unnecessary and useless. The Rev. Jas. Douglass is Moderator, and the Rev. Jas. Rogers, Presbytery Clerk.

JAMES ROGERS, *P. C.*

P. S. All communications to the Clerk, to be addressed to Hillier,
J. R. P. C.

Adjourned to meet to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

FRIDAY MORNING, 9 o'clock, June, 28th 1839.

The synod was opened by prayer. The following members were appointed the synodical committee for the present year: Rev. William Smart, Convener, Robt. Boyd, William King, James Douglass.

On motion,

Resolved, That in future the synod meet on the last Thursday in June, and that the next meeting be held at Demorestville, at 11 o'clock. Sermon by the Moderator, and in case of his absence the Rev. Geo. McClatchey to preach.

The committee on the Treasurer's accounts presented the following report.

The Committee appointed to examine the Treasurer's account, have done so, and have to report, that we examined his account and found it to be correct, and is as follows:—

1838, Treasurer to the synod, Dr.

June, 28th, To Amt. in his hands.....	£13	13	7	1-2	
“ “ To Amt. paid into his hands,	9	15	0	—23	8 71-2

1838, The synod to the Treasurer, Dr.

June, 28th, To Amt. of Printing Minutes,.....	£9	10	0	
“ “ To Amt. of Clerks' fees,....	4	00	0	
“ “ To Rev. A. Lewis for Missionary labors,.....	2	10	0	
“ “ To Amt. of Postage for part of the minutes,.....		5	0	
“ “ To Rev. T. Porter,.....	10	0	—16	15 0

1838, June 28th, Amt. in the Treasurer's hands,.....

£6 13 7 1-2

Signed—

ROBT. BOYD,
ROBT. LYLE.

On motion,

Resolved, That the Clerk write to absent members, delinquent in the payment of their proportion to Missionary and contingent fund, and to send in their accounts, on, or before the 1st of August, to the Clerk, or Treasurer.

Adjourned, to meet at Demorstville, on the last Thursday in June next at 11 o'clock.

Closed with prayer, praise and the Apostolical Benediction.

JAMES DOUGLASS, *Moderator.*

WILLIAM SMART, *Stated Clerk.*

APPENDIX.

No. 1.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF SYNOD TO THE PRESBYTERIES ON THE UNION QUESTION.

We have to report, that we received a letter from the Rev. A. Gale, synod clerk, bearing date, Kingston, July the 4th, 1839, containing the following extract from the minutes of the synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connexion with the church of Scotland :—

“That this synod do forthwith appoint a committee to meet and confer with the committee of the united synod or such members thereof as may have it in their power to attend at Kingston before the close of this session, on the subject of said resolutions with the view of ascertaining more precisely on what terms the proposed incorporation of the ministers of the united synod, with this synod, may be accomplished ; and of obtaining such information as may be regarded as necessary in the matter. The synod accordingly appointed a committee for these purposes, and instructed the clerk to transmit an extract of this minute to such members of the committee of the united synod, as may have it in their power to attend at Kingston, before the close of this session of synod.”

We met said committee in Kingston, on Monday the 8th, and proposed the following terms to them, as the general basis for a union of the two synods, viz :—

1st. That we acknowledge the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the word of God, the only infalliable rule of faith and practice.

2d. That we sincerely receive and adopt the confession of faith of the church of Scotland, as containing the system of doctrine taught in the Holy Scriptures.

3d. That we approve of the government and discipline of the Presbyterian church, by church Sessions, Presbyteries, Synods and General Assemblies.

4th. That the two synods thus united, will be called the “UNITED SYNOD OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CANADA, IN CONNEXION WITH THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.”

5th. That the laws and regulations of the “Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the church of Scotland, as heretofore existing, will be binding on the synod as thus united.

6th. That the synod will in no manner interfere with the Government allowances, as now, and heretofore received by the members of the uni-

ted synod, until other arrangements are made by the Government for the whole synod.

7th. That the different Presbyteries will remain as they now are until the synod, as thus united, will hold its first meeting in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty.

8th. That, Presbyterian Ministers, who may come from the mother country to this colony, and have received a collegiate education, and otherwise qualified will be admissible into said synod.

After much reasoning on the above terms of union, and to manifest our ardent desire for it, we withdrew the fourth, seventh and eighth terms; but the committee of the "Synod of Canada" still refused to approve of them as the basis of union between the two synods. They adhered to the resolution passed by their synod in 1832, which was to this effect,—"That we would apply to their Presbyteries in our respective bounds, produce certificates of ordination, and sign their formulæ, and then the Presbyteries would relieve us." We agreed to sign the formulæ; but refused to submit certificates of ordination, unless they produced similar ones, and also to leave it to the action of Presbyteries. We finally proposed to present a certified copy of the roll of the united synod, to the synod of Canada, to be added to their synod roll; and then let the synod of Canada appoint the Presbyteries, or appoint a committee, to meet a committee of the united synod to do it; but to this final proposal they would not consent, and so we parted.

It is to be deeply lamented, that a union of the two synods so highly desirable, and one that would be productive of many happy results, should be prevented, not from any essential principle, but perhaps, only from a feeling of what may be deemed right, by both parties. In a little time, and by exercising christian liberality, and "doing to others as we would that they should do unto us," the much desired union may yet be effected. All which is humbly submitted.

KINGSTON, July the 9th, 1839.

Members of committee present.

Ministers.

WILLIAM SMART.
ROBERT BOYD.

Elders.

JOHN McCRAID,
MATHEW McINTOSH.

No. 2.

AT KINGSTON, the ninth day of July, One thousand, Eight hundred and thirty nine.

The synod of the Presbyterian church of Canada, in connexion with the church of Scotland, being met and constituted.

Inter alia.

Called for the report of the committee appointed to confer with the committee of the united synod of Upper Canada, on the union of Presbyterians in Canada, &c.

Doctor Cook, reported that the committee had had a conference with the Rev. Messrs. Smart and Boyd, and two Elders on the part of the united synod of Upper Canada, and that it appeared to the committee, to

be the view of these gentlemen that the united synod was not disposed to join the synod of this church, except as an independent body, and without presenting any documents, which the members of this synod should not also be bound to present to them.

The synod having maturely considered this report and the whole circumstances of the case, it was moved, seconded, and by a majority of votes, carried. That this synod continue to regard the visible unity of that Presbyterian church in these provinces, as an object of the greatest importance—that they find, notwithstanding, that difficulties at present exist to the admission of the ministers of the united synod as a body and therefore appoint the commission of synod to confer with the committee of the united synod on the subject of these difficulties, as also to correspond with the General Assembly's committee on colonial churches, on the same subject, and

Resolve, mean while to receive such ministers of the united synod, as present to the Presbyteries of this church the necessary credentials of ordination and character, and with their congregations, give adherence to the formulas of the church of Scotland.

Extracted from the records of synod, by

ALEX. GALE, *Synod Clerk.*

